

bilities of the situation. As these shrubs are among the most hardy known, as they are very heavy bearers, and as some of the varieties are seedless, a large-fruited seedless variety which could be used for jam production might not be so unimportant as it would seem at first thought (*Berberis* spp., Nos. 44523 to 44530).

Through the Central Experimental Farm of Ottawa, Ontario, a remarkable collection of new selected seedling varieties of apples (Nos. 44713 to 44720) has been introduced. Five of them are seedlings of the well-known Wealthy variety, which, because of the hardiness of the trees and the most excellent eating qualities of the fruit, deserve especial attention by our horticulturists in the northern tier of States.

In connection with the search for a species of the genus *Pyrus* which might prove immune to the pear-blight, is it not possible that the closely related genus *Docynia*, of which the species *D. delavayi* occurs in western Szechwan and also in Yunnan, might furnish such a species and at the same time prove a suitable stock for the cultivated pear? E. H. Wilson photographed a tree which was 25 feet tall and 7 feet in circumference and reports it to bear edible fruits 1 inch long. No. 44677 represents seeds of this species sent in by Mr. Frank Pilson, but it can be easily grown from cuttings.

The existence of delicious-fruited hybrids between the cherimoya and the sugar-apple, produced independently by Wester in the Philippines and by Simmonds in Florida, and the fact, according to Pittier, that these hybrids occur in Venezuela and are recognized as distinct from the ordinary cultivated anonas, make the production by Wester of a hybrid which represents three species (Nos. 44671 to 44673) of special interest. The large number of related species and the fact that so many of them have edible fruits and that, as orchard trees, they bear early would seem to single out this family, Annonaceæ, as one particularly favorable for the plant breeder's work. The biribá of Brazil, *Rollinia mucosa* (Nos. 44658 and 44659), is another species introduced for the breeders of this family.

The great beauty of the different species of *Styrax* for use as shrubs around the dooryard, where they follow in their flowering habit the early-flowering shrubs like the lilac and spirea, will make the collection (*Styrax* spp., Nos. 44591 to 44595) imported from Chenault & Sons, Paris, welcome to nurserymen.

Dr. E. D. Merrill, of the Department of Agriculture of the Philippine Islands, has sent in a remarkable species of ornamental *Ficus*, *Ficus pseudopalma* (No. 44470), from Corregidor, which, because of its resemblance to a slender-stemmed palm, is known as the little coconut. It has a crown of leaves which are nearly a meter in length.